

# LEPRAnews

LEPRA Health in Action, improving health and quality of life for people in the developing world.

Mr C Williams  
Goldsmith Williams  
Mersey Chambers  
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LN1/10/H

**Building  
stronger  
communities**

Dear Mr Williams

Thank you so much for your support to LEPRA Health in Action. I would like to give you my best wishes for the year ahead with the hope that 2010 will be a better year for us all. The last week in January is World Leprosy Week, culminating in World Leprosy Day and we hope that our activities in the countries in which we work will increase awareness and help educate communities about the disease.

Despite being overshadowed by financial worries, our programmes managed to reach and treat some of the most disadvantaged people in the world during 2009. Recently we have also been able to increase our operations in Brazil. We will now be working in 10 new states, bringing the total up to 14. This is good news, as the second most leprosy endemic country in the world there is great need for our expertise in Brazil.

We want to help build strong and supported community organisations in the places where we work because we know the importance of developing communities where everyone feels valued and involved. Community organisations provide opportunities for social and economic participation, and it would be impossible for governments to provide the services they deliver without them. They enable people to take back control of their lives and improve their long-term physical, social and economic health.



**Please make a donation today**